



The Blue Beret

Wednesday

23rd December

1970

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BRITISH CGS VISITS UNFICYP. — General Sir Geoffrey Baker, GCB, CMG, CBE, MC, ADC (Gen), the Chief of the General Staff, last week visited British units serving with UNFICYP. Our picture shows the Secretary General's Special Representative, Mr. B.F. Osorio-Tafall, General Sir Geoffrey Baker and the Force Commander, Major General D. Prem Chand. — More pictures on Britcon page.

GOD JUL
SEASON'S GREETINGS
RAUHALLISTA JOULUA
FROHE WEIHNACHTEN
GLAEDELIG JUL
NOLLAIG FÉ
MHAISE DHIBH
JOYEUX NOËL

CHRISTMAS MESSAGES

At this festive season of the year, when our thoughts turn even more to our families and loved ones at home from whom many of us are separated, I send you all my warmest greetings and very best wishes.

"Peace on Earth, and goodwill amongst men" is the time-honoured message of Christmas, and to have an opportunity of making a personal contribution towards this noble aspiration is a privilege and an honour indeed. To all of you who have contributed so much to UNFICYP, I convey my deepest thanks for the conscientious and devoted manner in which you have carried out your duties.

We must all sincerely hope that the New Year will bring fresh opportunities for reaching a solution to the problems which have brought us to this island, and I know that I can count on your continued support and loyalty in achieving this aim towards the peace and prosperity of Cyprus.

To you all and your families at home I wish a Merry

Christmas and a Very Happy New Year.

D. Prem Chand,
Force Commander

1974
As the year 1970 comes to its close, I am pleased to convey to all of you — military and civilian personnel of UNFICYP — my sincere appreciation for the excellent manner in which you have performed your difficult duties as members of the U.N. Peace-keeping Force in Cyprus.

In so doing I interpret the feelings of gratitude not only of the Secretary-General and his immediate associates at Headquarters, but also of the Permanent Delegates who spoke at the 10th December Meeting of the Security Council, when the UNFICYP mandate was extended by another six months.

I wish you and your families a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year in 1971.

B. F. Osorio-Tafall
Special Representative
of the Secretary-General

"THE QUEEN OF LIGHT"



On 13th December Swedcon celebrated "Lucia" — "the Queen of Light". This is the start of the Christmas festivities for the Scandinavians and is a custom which goes back to the 12th century. Since no Swedish blondes were available in Cyprus, the British Base as usual kindly supported UN. In the picture we see "Lucia" visiting HQ UNFICYP. The girls are Gill Wickins, Joan Wittingham and Jenny Stone.

EFTERKLING AF "NUSER"

En fredelig demonstration fandt sted natten mellem 16/17 i officers-messen i Xeros. På dørene havde en ukendt tilhænger af NUSER op-hængt en plakate med dette væsen med teksten "WE LOVE SNOOPY", men havde dog med mindre bogstaver skrevet, "VIKING CAMP is a good name also".

Hvorfor denne kærlighed til NUSER? Dette væsen i sin egen fantasi, en lidt uheldig jægerpilot søgende sin argre modstander "Den røde baron", kan vel næppe siges at være noget typisk dansk; for det kan da vel ikke være, fordi vi ikke mener vi kan leve op til vikingetraditionerne.

"Nej" vil De sige, men hvor vi end kommer i Nicosia eller andets- teds så ved alle nu, at en "NUSER-vogn" tilhører DANCON. Men mon ikke "kærligheden er flygtet når vi har vænnet os til det barske vikingesyn. Det vil sikkert blive et ligeså afholdt og skattet symbol som "NUSER" har været.

For øvrigt blev der ydet Nuser alt muligt hæder, da han blev sendt ud på sin sidste rejse.

VOLLEYBALL

Den halvårige volleyballturnering kontingenterne imellem afvik- ledes onsdag 16. ds. på banen i Xeros. 11 hold var tilmeldt, og de indledende kampe viste hurtigt, at de to finske hold var i særklasse.

Det var da også kun lodtræknings- uheld, der bevirkede, at de to hold mødtes i semifinalen, hvor hold A vandt 2 - 1 efter en meget hård og spændende kamp. Cancon, der i en indledende kamp havde slået Dancon 2 - 0, vandt sin semifinale 2 - 1 over Britcon.

Da Fincon og Cancon stillede op til finalen, turde nok ikke mange have holdt en "Seven Up" på can- nadierne, men efter en dårlig start, fik de dog en smule greb om spillet



●"Mon jeg når det". De sidste julepakker gøres klar. KP J.E. Pedersen tog dog selv sine med hjem, da han gik "skråt op" til juleferie i lørdags.



DANCON NYT

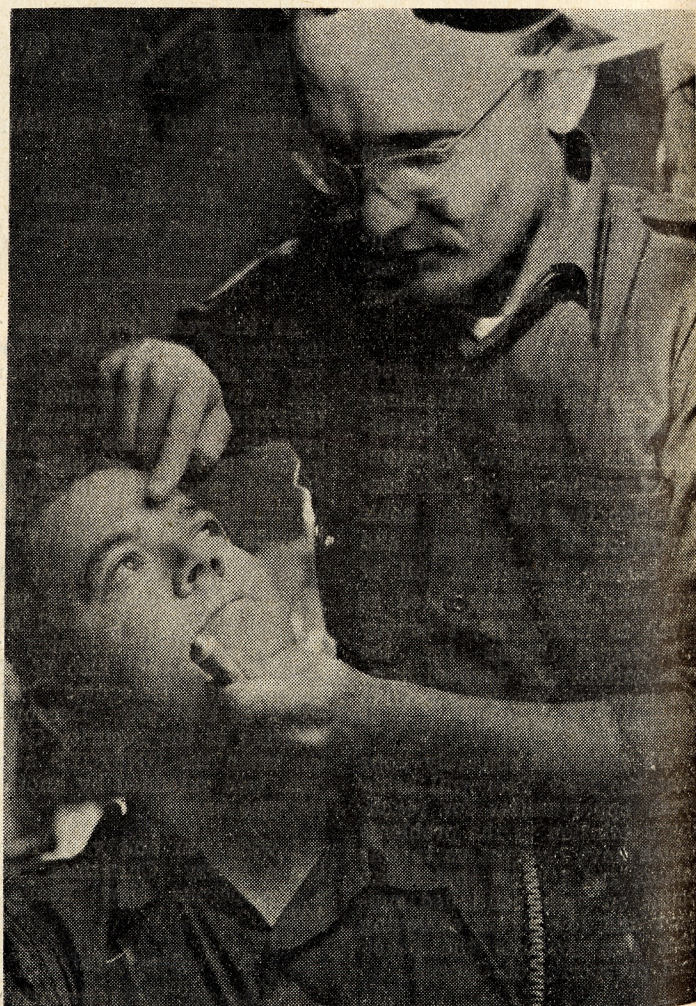
således at de tvang Fincon til at spille op til deres bedste. Der var dog aldrig tvivl om resultatet, Fincon kunne trække sig tilbage med en finalesejr på 2 - 0.

Efter finalen overrasktes guldmedaljer til det vindende hold af CH/ Dancon, OL Skov, der takkede for en velspillet match.

LÆGEN ARBEJDER

Et sjældent billede. Doktoren i arbejde. Det fremgår tydeligt af behandlingen, at denne mand lider af pityriasis, hvad så det er for noget.

●Der pustes ud ved baren i SG-messen efter juleforberedelserne. Messen, der er under reparation og forskønnelse, vil snart fremstå som et synligt bevis på, hvad flid og fantasi kan få ud af de forhåndenværen- de materialer.



LUCIA-PATRULLEN

Luciadagen den 13 december firades med besked inom SWEDCON. Bl a hade man en Lucia-patrull ute, som besökte sex svenska "utposter" och jagade runt en god del av Cypern under de åtta timmar patrullen var ute.

Befälet över patrullen hade som sig bör batpastorn, som till sitt förfogande hade tre engelska lärarinnor, som för dagen enrollerats i SWEDCON som Lucia med tärnor. En musikalisk grupp med gitarrister och sångare såg till att det svängde om Lucia och hennes framträdande.

Besöken inleddes på morronkulan med civilpolisens substation i Angastina. Sedan gick färden till HQ i Nicosia, där ju förutom sambandsgruppen också för tillfället en svensk vaktstyrka tjänstgjorde. OP:et i Bey Keuy och campen i Chatos fick också påhälsning liksom OP 301 T i Ayios Evstathios. Vid substationen i Yialousa mötte lokalbefolkningen upp så att det blev rena folkfesten.

Bilden överst på sidan är hämtad från Chatos, fr v tärnorna Joan Whittingham och Jenny Stone flankerande Lucian Gill Wickins. I övrigt igenkänns valda delar av patrullen, fr v överfurir Benny Wallin, Eskilstuna, furir Lars-Erik Johansson, Säter, Anders Ohlsson, Karl-

skoga, Jörgen Gustavsson, Krylbo, Anders Hedeby, Sigtuna och Jan Olov Olsson, Grycksbo

HKP-ÖVNING

Tredje pluton har haft helikopterövningar i närheten av Carl Gustaf Camp. Till vänster på sidan ses överst Bo Sjögersten, Hebo äntra ned för repet från FN-helikoptern. På den nedre bilden är det korpral Lars-Håkan Odén, Gävle som fungerar som flygledare.

VOLLEYBOLL

SWEDCON deltog med växlande framgång i UNFICYP-mästerskapen i volleyboll. Seger med 15-9, 15-3 över HQ Nicosia, och med 10-15, 15-11, 15-3 över Green Jackets, men sedan stopp mot CANCON med 15-9, 15-17, 16-18. Bilden är från matchen mot britterna, svenskarna är fr v civilpolisen Torkel Werner, Georg Nordin, Kjell Nilsson och Bengt Bernefalk.



MEDAL PARADE

Last Thursday there was a short medal parade for British Contingent personnel attached to HQ UNFICYP. Major General D. Prem Chand and Colonel D.E. Thornton presented the medals and afterwards the Force Commander addressed the parade and thanked all ranks for the valuable contribution that they have made to the work of UNFICYP. Also on parade were the Band of the 3rd Battalion the Royal Green Jackets.

● WO I J. Crawford receives his medal from the Force Commander. Also in the picture (from left to right) Captain G. Finney, OC 644 Signal Troop, Captain J. Blott, Camp Adjutant, and WO I J. Tilling, the Force Ordnance Warrant Officer. Mr Crawford is in

charge of the Stores Section attached to REME Workshops.

● Commander Britton has a word of congratulations for his chief clerk, Sergeant Norman Cheyne, after he had presented him with his medal.



● The Force Commander accompanied by Major N. Joplin inspects the parade.

CGS VISITS BRITCON UNITS

On Friday, General Sir Richard Baker, the CGS visited HQ UNFICYP and met a number of the British personnel serving with different branches.

Unfortunately heavy rain marred his visit but he was nevertheless able to complete most of his programme. At the Communications centre the CGS stops to chat with

BRITCON NEWS

Sergeant Terry Peacock. In the background is Lance Corporal Don Stacey. (picture left).

Whilst visiting 'C' Squadron The Royal Hussars at Gleneagles Camp the General met 2/Lt O. Howard (right) who had just returned with his troop from a patrol. Looking on is the OC of the Squadron, Major R. Merton.



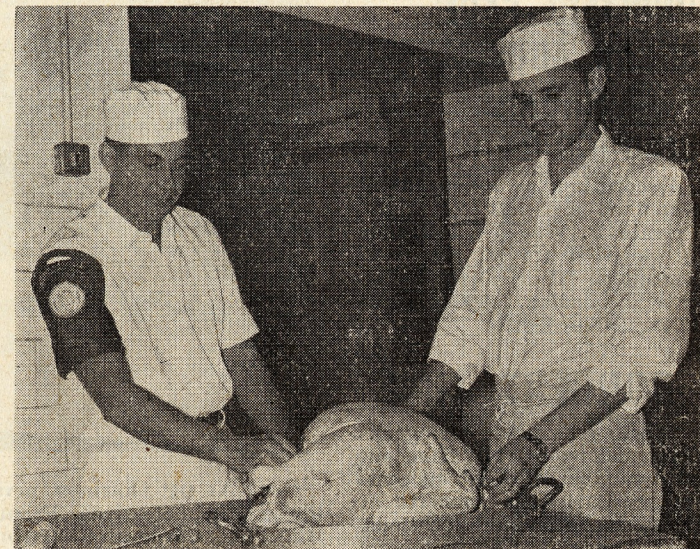
CHRISTMAS GOODIES

Private Ron Cullen opens up a present received in a Christmas parcel. During the period 1st-15th December the Base post office received 535 Christmas parcels (3,287 lbs) from relatives and friends at home.



CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sergeant Al Desjarlais (left) and Private Garry Hamblin prepare traditional turkey for Christmas dinner at the Cancon Base Combined Mess. As in past years, dinner will be served by officers at each of the messes.



FROM YOUR CHAPLAINS

This Christmas finds us many thousands of miles away from Canada and our families and friends. It will be a difficult time for all, whether it be mother and children at home or father standing at his OP, each thinking of the other at this traditional family time.

One thing which draws us very near to one another is prayer. We invite you to attend the religious services for Christmas as we celebrate the birthday of Christ in Adoration, Praise and Thanksgiving.

"Let us go now even unto Bethlehem; to give homage to the Prince of Peace and

the King of Glory. Let us worship Him who gives us strength when we are weak, comfort when lonely and love when we feel empty."

We wish to each and every one a happy and blessed Christmas.

Yours in Christ
Alexander Wakeling
Thomas Hassett



DECORATING PARTY

Corporal Frank Smit (left) and Master Corporal George Hurst put finishing touches to Christmas tree decorations at Chimo Club in preparation for Christmas week festivities.

CANCON NEWS

Canadian Forces Photos

MIDNIGHT SERVICES

Privates David Ward (left) and Roland Dupuis clean up Ayos Jacobos Chapel on the Green Line in preparation for a Roman Catholic Mass which will be celebrated at 2345 hrs 24 Dec. All members of UN Contingents are invited to attend the service.



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Protestant

24 Dec. — 2330 — CML Chapel — Carols and Holy Communion.

25 Dec. — 0900 — CML Chapel — Holy Communion.

27 Dec. — Normal Sunday Services.

Roman Catholic

24 Dec. — 2345 — Ayios Jacobos Chapel.

25 Dec. — 0730 — CML Chapel.

0930 — Holy Cross Church (Paphos Gate).
1700 — RAF Nicosia Chapel.

27 Dec. — Normal Church Services.

Meet at Maple Leaf Manor at 2330-transport provided to Chapel. Lunch at Beaver Lodge at 0700 25th December following service.



"NOLIAIG -FAOI SHEAN AGUS FAOI SHONAS DIBH GO LEIR"

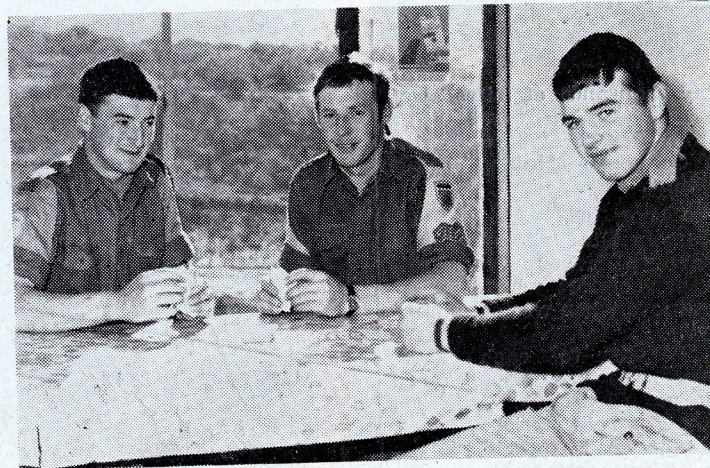
Decorating the Mens Club at Kophinou are, left to right, Private P. Wade, 4 Battalion (Cork), Private M. Ryan, 12 Battalion (Thurles) and Private J. Laffan, 12 Battalion (Templemore)

CONCERT TIME

During the past few weeks personnel from Ircon have put on a number of most successful pre-Christmas concerts at the various Company locations. Last Thursday "A" Company in Kophinou put on a very enjoyable show and there were many fine individual performances. On Friday, "A" Company performers staged their show at the cinema in Kophinou where they entertained an audience of two hundred Cypriots from the village.



• Lieutenant Billy O'Hanlon, 2 Garrison Company S & T, McKee Barracks, Dublin, performing at "A" Company concert in Kophinou.



• At OP Skarinou, personnel not on duty are seen playing a game of cards. From Left, Private D. McSweeney, 4 Battalion, Corporal S. Irwin, Southern Command Training Depot, and Private J. O'Sullivan 4 Battalion. All are from Co Cork.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Preparations have been made to make this Christmas a memorable one for all personnel of 19th Infantry Group, even though all are away from home and family. All Messes and Canteens are brightly decorated with Christmas trees and coloured lights, and the spirit of the festive season is apparent everywhere.

The Carol singers are busy rehearsing for the Inter-Denomination Service to be held at St George's Garrison Church Dhekelia on Tuesday 22nd December at which they will sing 'CEAD MILE FAILTE ROMHAT - A IOSA'. Christmas Day will commence with Mass being celebrated at Zyyi, Kophinou and Larnaca Camps.

A traditional dinner of turkey, ham and Christmas pudding will be served to all ranks, and Officers and NCOs will, as is the custom, serve the men at table.



• From left, Private F. Grimes, Private J. O'Leary, Corporal Finton Noonan and Private M. Purdy, all from 4 Battalion, Cork, who were at hand at OP Tango to help with the delivery of rations.

IRCON NEWS

WATER

Private Paddy Power (left) is one of the key men in 'A' Company. Every morning he drives the Water Truck to Zyyi where he fills it with 600 gallons of water. He delivers the water to all the OPs, driving with great skill. Helping Paddy fill the truck is Private J. O'Neill, 12 Battalion, Limerick.

PIKKUJOULUISTA JUHLAMIELTÄ KYKKOSSA



ANTHONIUS JA KLEOPATRA. Sanansaattaja Fiskar on juuri kertonut viestinsä kuningas Anthonius Karjalle: Nuori ja valloitushaluinen kuningas Oktaviaanus Komi joukkioineen on hyökkäämässä. Orja Turpeinen leyhyttelee kuningatar Kleopatra Maj-Lis Ikosen heräviä tunteita ja lopullinen valloittaja, palvelustyttö Mary Kartano kiirehtii saaliinjaolle.

Neapolis-Klinikan verhot pukivat hyvin roolihaamoja.

JOULUKALENTERI

Tiistaina 22.12. kontingenttien yhteinen joulujuhla kello 17.30 Dekeliassa St Georgen kirkossa. Lähtö Kykkosta kello 15.30.

Jouluaattona yhteiset jouluateriat

Joulupäivänä 25.12. joulujumalanpalvelus St Paulin kirkossa kello 11.00.

Tapaninpäivänä 26.12. tapaninajelu Larnacaan. Lähtö Kykkosta kello 10.00

LENTOPALLOMESS-TARIT

Vuodesta toiseen ovat suomalaiset olleet ylivoimaisia mestareita UNFICYP'n lentopalloturnajaisissa.

Tämä todettiin taas 16.12. jolloin 11 joukkuetta kokoontui Xerokseen ottamaan mittaa toisistaan.

Turnauksen kohokohdaksi muodostui suomalaisten A ja B joukkueen välinen ottelu. Lähinnä jää Kari Mäkinen loistavan pelin ansiosta A joukkue voitti ottelun 2-1.

Loppuottelussa olivat vastakkain FINCON A ja CANCON. Ottelun ja UNFICYP'n mestaruuden voitti puhtaasti FINCON'n A joukkue.

FINCON NEWS



•Välähdys ottelusta FINCON A - FINCON B. B joukkueen pelaajat torjumassa Kuusiston ja Hietaojan hyökkäystä.

Puhe vapaa-ajan vieton ongelmista saarella lieenee suuresti liioiteltua. Sen kuvan sai seurata Esikuntakomppanian suomalaiskansallista pikkujoulujuhlaa Kykko-Campissa marraskuun viimeisenä lauantaina -70. Koko komppania oli ainutkertaisesti kerrankin koossa ja ikuinen kissanhännänveto EtuEK:n ja PeräEK:n kesken oli siksi illaksi tyystin unohdettu.

Juhlamieli viritettiin messimestari Niipalan erikoisella ja hänen sekä kokki Juntusen käsistä oli vähin äänin syntynyt illan maittava menu, joulupuurot manteleineen ja sen sellaiset. Paikallista väriä loi puolitoistametriset luostarikynnit ja ulkona savuavat kebab-kriilit.

railevat kanadalaiset ja englantilaiset esiintyjät. Kanadalaisten käsissä kitara soi sitä herkemmin, mitä pitemmälle ilta kului. Pienimpiä pikkujouluvieraita muisti joulupukki, varttuneemmista huolehti messimies Lomu.

Pikkutunneilla, juhlan päätyttyä, Transit oli kerrankin myyty viimeistä istuinta myöten.

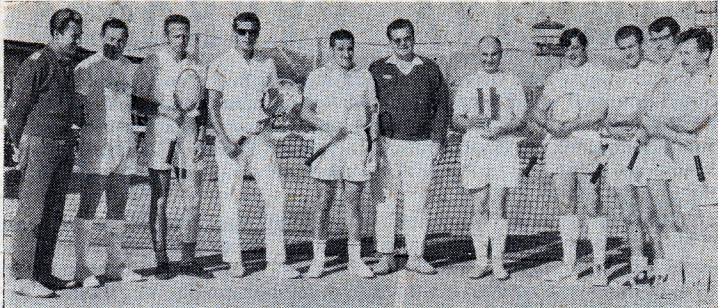
Hauska ilta kertakaikkiaan.



Kansainvälisyyttä toi illan kuvaan joulupukki, mutta myös vie-



•DANCON'n komentaja evl Skov jakamassa mestaruusmitaleja Kuvassamme vas Ylik R Salo, jääk K Mäkinen alik M Kartano R Hietaoja. Lisäksi joukkueessa pelasivat alik V Rautiainen, väap R Kuusisto ja pelaajahuoltaja kapt Risto H Luukkanen.



TENNIS AT AFH

A return match between officers of Iacon and the Austrian Field Hospital took place on Monday 14th December at the AFH. The Irish players had hoped to avenge their earlier defeat, but once again the Austrians were the winners.

After the match, the players enjoyed a Sauna where the Irish surprised their hosts by being able to withstand the highest temperatures. To round off the evening the two teams, mellowed

by Austrian wine and hospitality, entertained each other with national folk songs.

Taking part in the match were: Lieutenant Colonel W. Koch-Langentreu MD, Reverend Father P. McCabe, Captain D. Heraughty, Captain J. Costello, Captain M. O'Donnell, Lieutenant K. Heery, Lieutenant P. O'Brien, Captain J. Fally, Lieutenant M. Baar, Lieutenant H. Pristautz, MD and Lieutenant R. Willvonseder, MD.

"LUTFISK" FOR SWEDCON



A special Christmas dish in Sweden is "lutfisk". It is a dry fish which has to remain soaked in lye and water for a long time before cooking. In the picture, Sergeants Karl Ove Fjallstaal and Per Arne Carlsson are preparing the fishes for cooking on Christmas Eve.

GIFTS FOR HOME



● Miss Margaret Taylor, a member of the YWCA, is a regular and welcome visitor to UNFICYP posts in the Larnaca District and Limassol Zone. She is seen here at Kophinou doing a brisk trade with the last minute rush for Christmas cards and gifts. In the picture are Privates Laffin, Cronin, Sharpe, O'Rourke, Trooper Hutchinson, Signalman O'Sullivan and Corporal Byrne, all of Iacon.

6-A-SIDE HOCKEY

	P	W	L	F	A	Corners	Pts
644 SIGNAL TROOP	5	5	0	28	10	17	10
ROYAL HUSSARS	5	4	1	28	6	10	8
60 SQN RCT 'A'	5	4	1	9	11	9	8
CAMP HQ	5	3	2	14	16	9	6
REME	5	2	3	20	17	3	4
RAF NICOSIA	5	2	3	6	20	9	4
AVN FLT	5	0	5	8	13	4	0
60 SQN RCT 'B'	5	0	5	8	28	8	0

Results of matches played are:-

644 Signal Troop, 8 goals 5 corners, beat RAF Nicosia, 1 goal 1 corner.

REME, 4 goals nil corners, beat Royal Hussars, 3 goals 1 corner.

60 Sqn RCT 'A', 2 goals 1 corner, beat Avn Flight, 2 goals nil corners.

Camp HQ, 7 goals 1 corner, beat 60 Sqn RCT 'B', 3 goals 1 corner.

644 Signal Troop have now taken over the leading position after a good win over RAF Nicosia who were assisted by two members of the Lillywhites hockey team.

The ladies hockey team have been throwing out the gauntlet to the men's 6-A-Side teams, and with some success. 644 Signal Troop fell to them by 4 goals to 1, and 60 Sqn RCT only narrowly defeated them by 2 goals to 1 after a really hard match.

REME had a fine win over the Royal Hussars who, on their first game in the league, showed promise of being a very hard team to beat.



The BLUE BERET is published by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus, (UNFICYP). Communications, articles or enquiries should be addressed to:-

The Editor

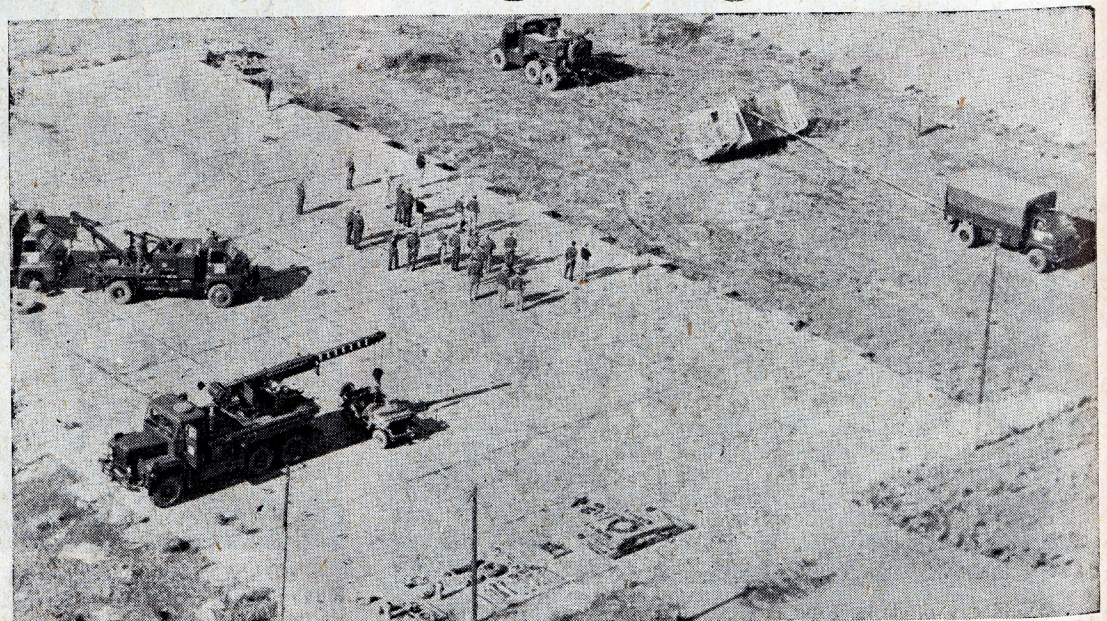
THE BLUE BERET
HQ UNFICYP
NICOSIA Cyprus

Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Conference

A conference was held at HQ UNFICYP on Tuesday 15 Dec 70 by the Force EME, Major B.S. Turner. All Contingents were represented by officers and senior ranks responsible for equipment maintenance and repair. The purpose of the Conference was to discuss logistic procedures and problems, and to enable contingent representatives to meet each other and 'break the ice'.

The morning session was preceded by coffee, and an exhibition which included specimen documentation and a 'chamber of horrors' of damaged parts removed from vehicles. At the end of the morning, there was a short demonstration of recovery vehicles and equipment, which included a 'casualty' being returned to its wheels following an 'accident'. Afterwards, the officers and senior ranks retired to their respective messes for lunch.

The Conference was welcomed as a useful forum for discussing engineering procedures and problems common to all the contingents in the Force.



The picture shows an aerial view of the recovery demonstration.